

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY [495]

WORLD WAR I RECORDS, 1917-1923

0.8 cu. ft.

DESCRIPTION: This series is an effort to preserve a history of the World War I war record of Utah. The task originally was begun by the State Council of Defense, part of the National Council of Defense created on August 29, 1916 by act of Congress. The State Councils were to assist the federal government in recruiting for the National Guard and armed forces, promoting agricultural and industrial production for the war effort, fundraising, and planning patriotic activities. The Council also responded to a request by Governor Bamberger to compile a War History of the state. With the end of the war, the State Council was dissolved, and the war history aspect was assumed by the Utah State Historical Society.

The broad nature of the State Council of Defense's activities is covered in their correspondence, minutes, and reports. Committees were set up to deal with finance (liberty loans, war work campaign, etc.), publicity, sanitation, food supply and conservation, industry, labor, military affairs, transportation, etc. Each committee's activities were duly reported in the minutes and often represented in the correspondence. A War History committee was established as well, and local historians were appointed under each local defense council. The local councils were to conduct a house-by-house canvass of the community to collect listings of those in service. The committee also created a biographical questionnaire to send to nearest of kin, or if back in the country, to the soldier himself.

The war ended in 1918, and the State Council of Defense was dissolved the following year. In a letter to the President of the Utah State Historical Society dated March 25, 1919, Governor Bamberger suggested the Society "arrange to assume charge of the war history work now under the direction of the State Council of Defense on April 1, 1919." The Historical Society continued the effort to obtain a complete listing of those who served. They also collected the biographical questionnaires. Although a couple are included here, most may be found in WORLD WAR I SERVICE QUESTIONNAIRES. A state war historian was selected to

research and publish a full account of Utah's contribution to the war effort.

Most of the series consists of rosters of one form or another. Many of the rosters, nearly half the series, represent listings of soldiers by home county. There are also a number of comprehensive rosters listing soldiers by branch of service. Other listings include nurses who served, wounded soldiers, soldiers who died in the war discharges, desertions, those who failed to report, those who were prisoners of war, those who received foreign decorations, etc. Aside from data on individuals, there are War Department listings of transports which would be carrying soldiers returning to Utah. Brief histories of the Second Division, the Fortieth Division, and the Ninety-First Division are included; each involved military organizations from Utah

.The project of compiling a complete war history with detailed biographies on those who died and a general biography on those who served was abandoned when word was received that the federal government was preparing a complete record of Utah men to be filed with the State Adjutant General ("Report of the State Historical Society," Public Documents ,Vol. 3, 1925-1926, p. 3). Nevertheless, in 1924, the information was used to publish a book titled Utah in the World War by Nobel Warrum.

ARRANGEMENT: The series is arranged alphabetically by subject and document type, thereunder chronologically.

RELATED RECORDS: Further correspondence on Council of Defense activities discussed here may be found in COUNTY WAR ACTIVITY RECORDS, series 10324, ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS, series 10335, and MILITARY SURVEY REPORTS, series 10336. The volume Utah in the World War is series 10325. Series 2793, WORLD WAR I SERVICE RECORDS, and series 85268, MILITARY SERVICE CARDS, contain military service data on many of the same individuals listed here. Series 2229, WORLD WAR I DRAFT BOARD REGISTERS, lists those inducted from each county.. Series 85298, WORLD WAR I SERVICE QUESTIONNAIRES, contains those photos and biographical questionnaires discussed here. The ADJUTANT GENERAL's RECORDS, series 6308, provides further information on the administrative role of the National Guard during the war and historical data on units activated. Series 10339 is the 145TH FIELD ARTILLERY SCRAPBOOK, from one of the units regularly discussed here.

CUSTODY HISTORY: The series was begun by the State Council of Defense. It was continued and elaborated on by the Utah State Historical Society.

PROCESSING NOTE: Many of the Historical Society's military records were stored in a warehouse at Fort Douglas after the war. These records were transferred to the Archives from the National Guard during 1987. Before processing there was no discernible arrangement. Records were arranged and processing begun in 1991 by J. Brent Brinkerhoff. Processing

completed in 1992 by A.C. Cone.

CONTAINER LIST

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Artillery Roster, 145th Field
1	2	Casualties Statistical Reports; 40th Division
1	3	Casualties Statistical Reports; 91st Division
1	4	Council of Defense; Correspondence, 1917
1	5	Council of Defense; Correspondence, 1918-1920
1	6	Council of Defense; Minutes
1	7	Council of Defense; Publications
1	8	Council of Defense; Reports
1	9	Council of National Defense Circulars
1	10	County Participation Rosters; Beaver
1	11	County Participation Rosters; Box Elder
1	12	County Participation Rosters; Cache
1	13	County Participation Rosters; Carbon
1	14	County Participation Rosters; Daggett
1	15	County Participation Rosters; Davis
1	16	County Participation Rosters; Emery
1	17	County Participation Rosters; Garfield
1	18	County Participation Rosters; Grand
1	19	County Participation Rosters; Iron
1	20	County Participation Rosters; Juab
1	21	County Participation Rosters; Kane
1	22	County Participation Rosters; Millard
1	23	County Participation Rosters; Morgan
1	24	County Participation Rosters; Piute
1	25	County Participation Rosters; Rich
1	26	County Participation Rosters; Salt Lake
1	27	County Participation Rosters; San Juan
1	28	County Participation Rosters; Sanpete
1	29	County Participation Rosters; Sevier
1	30	County Participation Rosters; Summit
1	31	County Participation Rosters; Tooele
1	32	County Participation Rosters; Uintah
1	33	County Participation Rosters; Utah
1	34	County Participation Rosters; Wasatch
1	35	County Participation Rosters; Washington
1	36	County Participation Rosters; Wayne
1	37	County Participation Rosters; Weber
1	38	Dead Roster
1	39	Deserters, policies and listings
1	40	Discharges, correspondence and listings
2	1	Dishonorable Discharge List
2	2	Enlistment Roster; pp. 1-50

Box	Folder	Description
2	3	Enlistment Roster; pp. 51-
2	4	Failure to Report Forms
2	5	Foreign Decorations Recipients
2	6	Histories; 2nd Division; 40th Division; 91st Division
2	7	Induction Roster; pp. 1-50
2	8	Induction Roster; pp. 51-100
2	9	Induction Roster; pp. 101-150
2	10	Induction Roster; pp. 151-163
2	11	Marine Corps Rosters
2	12	Marine Corps Service Records
2	13	Navy Rosters
2	14	Ninety-first Division Roster
2	15	Nurses Roster
2	16	Officers Roster
2	17	Prisoners of War List
2	18	Recognition Letters
2	19	Returning Troop Movements
2	20	War History Dept.; Correspondence, 1919
2	21	War History Dept.; Correspondence. Jan.-May
2	22	War History Dept.; Correspondence, June 1920
2	23	War History Dept.; Correspondence, July-Oct. 1923
2	24	War History Dept.; Requisitions
2	25	Wounded Roster